(d) what are the compelling reasons for hiring their services when there are staffers to host such panel discussions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) The names of outside anchors engaged and the monthly remuneration paid by Doordarshan are as follows:—

(i) Smt. Mrinal Pandey — Rs. 1.5 Lakh

(ii) Shri Rahul Dev — Rs. 1.5 Lakh

(iii) Shri Sunit Tandon — Rs. 75,000/-

(iv) Shri Nalin S. Kohli — Rs. 60,000/-

(d) There are no specialized staff recruited for this kind of professional and special services Doordarshan and, therefore, persons with presentation talent are being hired from outside.

Violence in the films and television

1136. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the violence in the films and television is having a very detrimental effect on the consciousness of children;

(b) whether government are also aware of a recent publication by UNESCO in which this has been documented at length; and

(c) if so, the steps Government intend to take to discourage violence in films and television?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) All Films, including advertisement films, intended for public exhibition in India are required to be certified by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) in accordance with the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the guidelines issued thereunder. According to these guidelines, the CBFC, while examining films for certification

ensures, *inter-alia,* that human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity, depravity, sex and violence.

A Doordarshan Broadcast Code already exists and all programmes-telecast on television by Doordarshan are governed by it. Private channels, uplinking from within the country, are also required to adhere to this code. The code insures, *inter-alia,* that the programmes telecast do not contain excessive violence or vulgarity, which may have adverse impact on the viewers/society.

The programmes of foreign satellite channels are uplinked from outside the country and, therefore, do not fall under the ambit of Indian laws, unless de-coders are required for their reception. The Government is contemplating to suitably amended the Cable Law to ensure that all free-to-air channels also conform to the prescribed Codes under the Cable Law.

The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986 has specific provisions which prohibit the indecent representation of women in advertisements, books pamphlets etc.

Coverage of DD-II in Assam

1137. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in Assam which are yet to be covered by DD-II;

(b) the reasons for continuing low quality transmission in parts of Assam;

(c) The action contemplated in improve it;

(d) the target finalized to raise the height of Dibrugarh DD Tower and allocation made; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITELY): (a) Satellite derived DD-2 service of Doordarshan is available throughout the country including Assam by using an appropriate dish antenna system, or through a cable operator. However, parts of Assam receive DD-2 service of Doordarshan terrestrially, through Low Power Transmitters functioning from Guwahati, Dibrugarh and Silchar.

(b) and (c) The quality of transmission of DD-2 service in Assam is reported to be satisfactory within the coverage range of the three LPTs and through satellite mode.